(b) if so, whether this would enable rural communities to conserve water for drinking, irrigation etc.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) to (c) The Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development has been implemented three watershed development programmes namely the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and the Desert Development Programme (DDP) with the objective of developing the fragile resource base of drought prone and desert areas and improving the productivity of wastelands. Water harvesting and water conservation are core activities undertaken in the watershed development projects taken up under these Programmes. So far, 436 watershed projects covering an area of 38.03 lakh ha. under IWDP, 16,268 projects covering an area of 81.34 lakh ha. under DPAP and 8,314 projects covering an area of 41.57 Lakh ha. under DDP have been sanctioned under these programmes.

Budget for Swajaldhara projects

†2289. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any budget limit has been prescribed for each State for implementation of 'Swajaldhara' drinking water projects;

(b) if so, the maximum cost prescribed for such projects;

(c) whether 10 per cent share to payable by villagers for the projects may be contributed by any Member of Parliament from M.P.L.A.D. fund; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) and (b) Swajaldhara is a demand responsive, community-led, participatory scheme. In the financial year 2002-2003 budget limit has not been

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

prescribed and Swajaldhara proposals are considered from the various States on demand mode.

(c) and (d) At present each proposal cost prescribed under Swajaldhara is upto Rs. 25 lakh. Members of Parliament can recommend to contribute funds from the M.P.L.A.D. fund for bridging the gap that may exist between 10/5% of the capital cost (as the case may be) and the actual community contribution for undertaking drinking water supply scheme in the Government schools only.

Allocation of more funds for meeting water shortage

2290. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to allocate more funds to the States so as to enable them to meet the water scarcity crisis at war footing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received any requests from the State Governments for allocation of more funds for implementation and rejuvenating of water supply schemes in their States; and

(d) if so, the names of such States requesting for funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) to(d) Water supply is a State subject. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States by releasing funds under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) to meet drinking water requirements in rural areas. Details of funds released to various States under ARWSP during 2002-2003 are in Statement (*See* below).

It has been decided to earmark 5% of the funds under ARWSP for meeting requirements arising out of calamities and other emergent situations resulting in water scarcity. The States who have been relased funds under this component is available in Statement.